

Listing of the Claims:

1. (original) A method of closing an open end of a product having a first layer with a first end and a second layer with a second end, the first layer being spaced apart from the second layer, the first and second ends defining an open end of the product, the first and second layers being heat weldable or fusible, the method comprising steps of:

rolling at least the first layer toward the second layer and contracting the first layer with the second layer;

fusing the first and second layers by heating at least one of a portion of the first layer that contact the second layer and a portion of the layer that contacts the first layer.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the rolling step includes overlapping the first layer over the second layer.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the rolling step includes contacting an edge of the first layer to an edge of the second layer.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the rolling step includes rolling both the first and second layers so that edges of the first and second layers contact each other.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the edges abut each other.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the rolling step includes rolling both the first and second layers so that the first layer overlaps and contacts the second layer.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the fusing step includes heating both portions of the first and second layer that contact each other.

8. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the both portions are simultaneously heated.

9. (original) A method according to claim 2, further including a step of trimming at least the second layer so that the first layer extends beyond the second layer to form a tab, the tab being dimensioned to overlap the second layer.

10. (original) A method according to claim 4, further including a step of trimming the first and second layers so that the first and second layers extend substantially equally.

11. (original) A method according to claim 6, further including a step of trimming the first and second layers so that the first and second layers extend substantially equally.

12. (original) A method according to claim 1, further including a step of pressing and cooling the fused layers.

13. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the product comprises a fluted thermoplastic panel.

14. (original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the thermoplastic material is one of polypropylene, polyethylene, and polycarbonate.

15. (original) The panel produced according to the method of claim 13.

16-30. (Canceled)